

Porte assented, and said that they would grant an armistice of five months and we submitted that to the

Mr. W. F. Bowers, Shoshone, aged, £10
W. Woollen & b g Comst, £30,

Fair Stroz—**Mr. W. Fullagar** reports having
sold for **Mr. B. Richards**, 64 bullocks, averaging 56
lb. each: 20 cows, ditto £5 14s. each: also 81
bullocks, ditto 47 each: 28 cows, ditto £5 3s. 9d.
each.

Positively was the latter besieged the case, firing into it with shot and marbles. This was continued for three-quarters of an hour, during which time other poachers made full bags. Several of the keepers were hurt, but not seriously.

A gigantic turf swindle has been discovered. It was conducted by persons who represented

Mr. Goahan has succeeded in negotiating with the Khedive respecting the financial condition of Egypt.

The Minister of Finance was arrested and exiled to Dardar. A report that he died on the road has been contradicted.

Prince Hassan, son of the Khedive, has been appointed nominally Minister of Finance.

dignation and nutrition, and by the proportion of wet seasons comes the inevitable winter of idleness, when to save as many heavy destroy bills, surplusheries of diet that a constant winter storms compels to restrict even of subtle mindless are floating across ever there is a weak point. We must however ourselves be fortified with nourishment from "—Civil Service Corps, 121b, and 1b, involved—of the United States, 4b, Three-needle, London."

They never ceased to attempt to bring about a peaceful settlement. What by common consent was most desired as its only foundation was the attainment of an armistice—a real, formal armistice, and not for a short period. The Government of Russia expressed, indeed their opinion that it should be for three months; but by the utmost effort, by a strain on their diplomatic action, we induced the Entente to accept our proposition which was made in these terms, that there should be armistices of not less than one month. (Cheers.) The

"HENRY PARKS."

And the fact is that every people, in every country, gives the credit to the printer, who provides, upon demand, all the material. It assists digestion and increases the appetite. It has a place at Quakerman's dinner, and it runs all over respectable writings." The presentation of the volume is colonial, the new traders because it is cheap. It is the ideal directory with all classes, because, to one of the typical clergyman writes: "It is the best real estate ledger I have sold, made by Washington H. Cook, of the Pittsburgh office, by every storekeeper, from one shilling, upwards."

CEYLON, DECEMBER 1

dignation and nutrition, and by the proportion of wet selected bones. The manufacturer while so delicately saving as many heavy destroy bill, surplushes of diet that a constant until strong enough to resist even of subtle maladies are floating across ever there is a weak point. We must remember ourselves well fortified with nourishment from "—Civil Service Corps, 141b, and 1b, involved—of the United States, 4b, Three-needle, London."

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[illegible]

LONDON, DECEMBER

patent frame."—Civil Service G
Tues. 14th, and 15th, limited—"Is
patent Chemists, 45, Threlkeld
London."

action, we induced the Porte to accept our proposition which was made in these terms, that there should be an armistice of not less than one month. (Cheers.) The

cial favourite with all classes, because, as one of the sports-
clergymen wrote, "It is the best yet made." It is from Australia
Hull, made by Washington M. Hull, of St. Petersburg, and
sold by every storekeeper, for 10s. one shilling, -more.

THE SYDNEY HUNT CLUB.

The preliminary meeting of the Sydney Hunt Club will take place at Homebush to-day, when five events will be decided. The course can be reached by the ordinary trains from "Parramatta," and the river steamer "The Sydney" starts at 1 o'clock, and the following is the programme:-

THE HURDLE RACE.

St. lb.	st. lb.
Pearmouth 15
Blackburn 16
Alford 17
Blackburn 18
Blackburn 19
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Blackburn 100

EMERALD HANDICAP.

The Barb 8
Blue Flute 9
Fountain-Letter 10
Cornet 11
Marine 12
Marine 13
Marine 14
Marine 15
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Marine 100

Ordinary traffic has been stopped on many of the lines in Russia leading to the Turkish

...the most striking of the Turkish frontier, and the port of Hama has been shut. In Hungary qualifications hostile to Russia are in favour of Turkey have taken place and the Press strongly advocates a close alliance between Austria and England.

A letter speaking in eulogistic terms of Russia has appeared from the pen of Cagliostro. He declares it would be an act of madness for England to go to war against Russia for Turkey. He proposes the expulsion of the Turkish governing classes from Europe, and the partition of Turkey between Russia and Austria, while England secured the route to India. He suggests that Bismarck should arbitrate between Russia and England.

A most audacious attack was made by the Germans on a watching party in Giordani, near Llandudno. Fifteen keepers and poachers were assembled in a gunroom, intending at a certain hour to make a raid on the poachers, when the latter besigned the machine, firing into it with shot and snarling. The chase was continued for three-quarters of an hour, during which time other poachers made all bags. Several of the keepers were hurt, but not seriously.

A genuine tur swindle has been discovered. It was concocted by persons who represented

restitution of the property, and severely con-

damned the proceedings of the monks. The principal forger was a superior named Viehpfied, who died about a year ago in the odour of sanctity.

The Swedish tribunal has decided in favour of the British claims to the Protestant Church, Stockholm, and declare illegal the proceedings of the Swedish party.

The cannon purchased for the Turkish Government, which was seized by some bond holders at Antwerp, have been given up to the Turkish representative by order of the Belgian Court.

The sentence upon Dr. Strauborg by the Court at Moscow, was simply banishment from Russia.

Proceedings against Captain Kreiger, of the Franconia, have been instituted by the Public Prosecutor.

The Chinese troops are advancing in the west of China, in the direction of Yakoh.

Mr. Goahan has succeeded in negotiating with the Khedive respecting the financial condition of Egypt.

The Minister of Finance was arrested and exiled to Duxfat. A report that he died on the road has been contradicted.

Prince Haasan, son of the Khedive, has been appointed nominally Minister of Finance.

The Niessens continue his tour in Pondicherry.

[illegible]

lished which would give to the population some control over their own local affairs and guarantee

against the exercise of arbitrary authority. It was agreed that the scheme propounded in detail in the Andreyev Note should now be carried into effect. With regard to Bulgaria, we proposed also that its condition should be considered. It was pointed out that, in September, there was no special reason whatever why peace should not have been obtained in a very brief time. (Cheers.) Every Power seemed to share this proposition, and I am bound to say, no Power with more sincerity and cordiality than Russia. (Cheers.) But what appeared to me to be the chief reason for the failure in this country, excited by horrible events, created such a sensation and excitement that the people of Serbia and the friends of the people of Serbia really believed that the people of England had suddenly determined to give up the traditional policy of the country, which the eminent statesmen of Europe only five years ago—including the members of the late Government (cheers and laugh)—thought so highly of, and Serbia was induced to reach what she had expressed and once more to engage in a sanguinary struggle, which every friend of humanity must lament. (Cheers.) But the time came when it was quite clear that they could no longer continue the war, and her Majesty's Government again used all their efforts. They now ceased to attempt to bring about a peace settlement. Only by common consent was it desired as its first foundation was the attainment of an armistice—a real, formal armistice, and not for a short period. The Government of Russia expressed, indeed, their opinion as to the necessity for this, but it was by the utmost effort, by a strain on their diplomatic action, we induced the Porte to accept our proposition, which was made in these terms, that there should be an armistice of not less than one month. (Cheers.)

assisted by a sudden expansion of revenue derived from the alienation of our public lands, has

brought about a state of fiscal laws and regulations which
 makes the people of New South Wales at the present time
 as free as the people of England. It must be admitted
 however, that the revenue now derived from taxation
 is not equal to the public expenditure, and that on any serious
 falling out in the land revenue, we should have to hark
 back to the old mode of raising money by taxation.
 I must be more than probable that within
 three or four years we shall be engaged in a
 struggle in which distinctive principles of taxation will
 have to be decided upon. I believe that the revenue from
 land will not be sufficient to support the necessities of
 trade. When the time comes, I believe the cause of free
 trade will not suffer at our hands. These remarks might
 be applied, with certain modifications, originally
 from the principles of taxation, to the colonies.
 Probably principles have been more closely defined in
 the late legislation of Victoria during the last ten years than
 in any of the so-called colonies. Duties have been imposed
 which tend to protect a protective policy, and a
 commercial policy unduly restricted. So far as I judge
 this party will be supported by a majority of the nation
 general election. But the proceedings of the last ten years
 have been the principle of retaliation, and have brought
 force party, who by talent, character, and clearness of
 force of opinion, will be able to do battle powerfully for
 great cause. In the two principal of the Australian colonies
 Victoria and New South Wales, you may anticipate the
 struggle for the principles of free trade within the period
 have intimated.

" Yours very faithfully,
 HENRY PARKES. "

Ask them to let every people. Also every citizen
 given the chance to every day, for service, some good, some
 it has a place. It is a duty and the greatest of the
 responsible estimate. The presentment, it is because it
 have by the principle of retaliation, and have brought
 and advocate with all eloquence, to use the words of
 citizens were, " It is the best way to live. " In the Australian
 Victoria and New South Wales, you may anticipate the
 sold by every student, for a challenge, -

SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS

as that are often drawn by a class who have no sympathy with the totalitarians. It is frequently said that the law is overridden by the fact that the national vice must be fought by lighter labour, pleasanter and happier homes. And this may be true of that phase of the national vice under the supervision of the police, but to a limited extent, or not at all, in the case of the national vice itself, and it is the vice itself and the character phases of it that is supposed to be philanthropic. More wages and less work have often meant less sobriety and more drunkenness. Artisans and others who have been found to drink are not the same though it may be more discreetly,

who have had ones. An increase in has often been found to be quite able to check the passion for drinking ease of prosperity and comfort. Like prosperity, tends to lessen the of intemperance, but the facts against the conclusion that it is a remedy for the evil of intemperance. Considerations like these show clearly although it is quite easy to depict of excessive drinking, the task of these evils is one, the difficulties often scarcely touched by those the most prominent part in temperance.

It is hardly to be hoped that the difficulties of temperance legislation will be relieved by the basis of coercion.

nished by the meeting on Tuesday, the points comprised in this basis of power of licensing be taken from the State and given to the people; that houses shall be closed on Sundays; that a Suspensory Act prohibiting the granting of any licenses till these resolutions are made be passed forthwith; that if these resolutions are not likely to be granted in the State of public opinion at any rate, and merely introduces a subject for further action on a basis of action. The such a Suspensory Act as is named in these resolutions would so far be an act of the principles of the other resolutions. An Act would, therefore, be a necessary and logical consequence.

any closing and popular elections
houses, these things could surely be
done without a Suspensory Act as
a Suspensory Act like the one in
is not really a Suspensory
all, since it simply shifts
of licensing from the magis-
Home Secretary. The trouble
is necessary to pass such an Act
be quite sufficient for a great deal
more Act to suspend any further
licenses by magistrates. Such an
settle nothing, whereas an Act
the main question would deter-
mine at issue without delay.
not the slightest likelihood, how-
the Legislature will modify the

in the direction of an entire public-houses on Sundays. The first asked is what is meant by closing of public-houses on Sunday. Any proposition to close public-houses on Sunday must necessarily start with what is to be done with that quantity that goes by the name of traveller. No Legislature could, without show of reason, pass a law that one day in the week entirely public-houses to bona fide travellers. But, the question that follows is, how are bona fide travellers to be regarded as bona fide travellers? In Victoria defines a bona fide traveller as a person who has come from a distance of three miles, and thus under a closing public-houses on Sunday.

are liable to be kept open for persons as have inclinations in. What gain either to religion would a law of this sort present system? What protection be against hypocrisy and evasion tions?

proposal to transfer the power of from the magistrates to the people we cannot discuss in the present may be said, however, that this is a ch has been discussed over and in the English Parliament, and sion has been against the pro- tion by overwhelming majorities, true that the proposal may be. vertheless, but the fact is certain, to the

to cure the evils of the licensing system, and to transfer the whole business of the management of the public houses to the magistrates to the people. I do not desire to discourage any honest man from settling a great question, and to settle a great evil, but it may be far better to let the evils we have than to rush to the other extreme, and have none, and there is no doubt that the embodiment of the principle of the resolution that was passed on Tuesday last in an Act of Parliament would make the liquor traffic worse instead of better.

at the rate of 4 897 per cent. sis of the estimates in Thursday's notice that only part of this charged against the account for the town in the Auditor-General's Our indebtedness for that year rate of £15 14s. 6d. per head ople, and the actual annual interest was at the rate per head. According to the al Statement the public debt of on the 31st October, 1875, was at or at the rate of £18 18s. 3d. On page 126 of Mr. Robertson's statement, we are told that the total loan outstanding for each units to £936,108, which is and a half per cent on the

turned as outstanding. But then, as in a fact note to which attached to four items, refers to the amount includes "interest on authorised loan," and by hunting particulars it is possible to see that two of these loans had not been repaid, that one had been floated only to be repaid, and that the other, in conjunction with the first, entailed a charge for interest for the year. The sum of £200,000, given as interest in the estimates, includes £250,000 on the authorised loan, and £150,000 on the loan authorised by S1 Vic., No. 10, which is inferred to be the amount of the loan. It is inferred from observing that £700,000 is placed on the estimates for the year 1900-1901, that the sum of £200,000 is the amount of the loan.

at of this loan, principal and
deducted, and that it is said

great attraction at the Victoria last night. The pantomime makes its own way without adventitious aid, and remains, as it will do for some weeks longer, a great attraction.

FRIDAY EVENING
The Customs' duties received to-day were
None.

	1990	1991	1992
Spirits	\$1435 2 3
Wine, still	237 7 6
Ale, porter, and beer (in wood)	1 19 0
Tobacco (manufactured)	85 10 0
Cigars	139 18 5
Tea	186 5 3
Coffee and chicory	17 7 0
Sugar, unrefined	214 0 0
Rice	4 0 2
Opium	12 18 3
Specific duty	354 19 11
Wholesale warehouse duty	106 3 0
Pilgrage	8 4 8
Harbour and light dues	16 14 8
Total	\$2504 4 11

The following table shows the state of market at close:—

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a.gov.au/11a.news-p

Page 1436623

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 27. NATURALLY, our political troubles have proved fatal to that business revival which had been so long looked for, and which had at last evidently set in. For the week after election there was actually no business at all transacted, and since that time men have been mainly occupied in trying to prematurely close up such commercial or industrial ventures as they had begun prior to the election. Money is abundant, almost without exception, and call loans command but 2 or 3 per cent., but no man cares to borrow. On the other hand, real estate in New York city is offered for sale to-day, in vain, at a valuation equivalent to 8 per cent. net rental. That illustrates pretty forcibly the sense of insecurity that now universally prevails. Stocks just manage to save themselves from sinking yet lower, but they are ridiculously low at present in proportion to their dividends. Western Union Telegraph, an 8 per cent. stock, stands at 72, and St. Paul Preferred, which for two years has paid 7 per cent., is selling at about 60. Even New York Central and Rock Island, which in ten years have never paid below 1 per cent., and have sometimes paid more, barely reach par. The securities of the Government, however, are stronger than ever, but this is probably due to the fact that two-thirds of their total bulk are held in Europe. Sooner or later they must yield also to the storm of political agitation.

In two days we shall have the pleasure of reading all about the first case of cremation in the United States. Naturally, so novel and striking an idea in a Christian community as is involved in having yourself burned instead of being buried, could not fail to find many enthusiastic adherents. Two years ago, a society was organized in order to prepare the world for adopting the new plan of getting rid of the family corpse, but it made little headway. A great many people were willing to pay a five dollar subscription and make strong speeches about the necessity of progress and the unwholesomeness of churchyards, but when their children or friends went the way of all flesh, they postponed giving a practical proof of their principles until the prejudices of society in favour of "God's acre" should have been eradicated. But at last, the worms are in serious danger of starvation. Some months ago, an eccentric old German, the Baron De Palm, who had been a leading member of the Theosophist Society, died, leaving in his will some curious provisions in regard to the disposition of his corpse. The Theosophist Society disbelieves in God, but believes in "black and white" magic. Only the other night I heard its president seriously assert on his own personal honour that he had written a letter to a friend in India, had left it on the mantelpiece for half-an-hour, and had then found the letter opened and a reply in the handwriting of his friend, scrawled across his own script. The Baron de Palm was also a member of the Rosicrucian Society, and one of the Carbonari. His first care therefore was that his body should receive attentions calculated to protect it from the malice of unfriendly powers of the air and earth. A hall in the Masonic Temple was hired by his friends, and one Sunday they had quite a good time with magic tapers and lamps and wands and garments. The officiating high priest was Colonel Olcott, president of the Theosophists, and, in his funeral eulogy over the remains of his departed brother madman, he expatiated at length upon the virtue of certain perfumes and geometrical figures and cabalistic invocations in preserving alike the living and the dead from the devilry of unseen existences. He announced too, that these ceremonies were but preliminary to further and more imposing rites at the cremation of his friend's corpse, which would take place so soon as a furnace suitable for the purpose could be erected. The promise then made is to be kept to-morrow, when Baron de Palm will be burnt up according to the most scientific methods that can be devised, at a sequestered village in Eastern Pennsylvania. Next month, I will take care to let you know the full particulars of the ceremony.

The theatrical world is prosperous, and correspondingly happy. We have really a great sensation in the revival at the Union Square of "East Lynne." The play is, however, in its present form, a translation of a French adaptation from the English novel, under the style of "Miss Nulton," and in dramatic force and vigour is infinitely superior to the English dramatization with which all theatre-goers are familiar. Clara Morris takes the part of the repentant wife, which seems likely to become her greatest role. Shakespeare, "with fixins," in the shape of spectacle and ballet, holds the stage at the Fifth Avenue and Booth's Theatres. "The Great Goodbye," "The King Lear" having been hurried with reproduction. At the German Theatre, of course, "A Journey through New York," "Eighty House" in German, of course. The list of the theatres are occupied by variety companies, and are absolutely beneath notice.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

THE election is over, but we are still as much as ever in the dark as to the name of our next President. Both sides claim the victory, and stand face to face with what every student of our political machinery has regarded as our gravest peril—a disputed Presidential contest. Mr. Tilden has certainly 184 votes out of a possible 399, and Mr. Hayes has certainly 168. These two States remain to be heard from, and each of the three, by the unofficial caucus, is claimed by each party as its own beyond doubt or peradventure. Worse than that, but in equal accordance with the fundamental principles of human nature, each party makes the air noisy with charges of fraud, violence, and illegality in each one of these three doubtful States. And worse than all, each of the States in dispute has been for a decade the scene of admitted fraud and apparent anarchy.

To make the present situation of affairs plain, it is necessary to go back to the period immediately subsequent to the close of the great rebellion, and to glance once more at that crucial problem of our recent political history which passes under the name of "Reconstruction." Of course, you know that the Federal Government claimed all through the war that they were fighting to preserve the Union—in other words, to prevent the rebel States from leaving the confederation formed at the close of the Revolution of '76. But after the war ended, it was apparent that the insurrectionary States could not without danger be permitted to resume their ordinary political functions, for the first act of the conquered South would have been to send Jefferson Davis back to the

Senate, and fill the two Houses of Congress with rebel generals." The first consequence of a war to keep these States in the Union was, therefore, a declaration that temporarily they were out of it, and their formation into military departments. Then Congress, consisting of representatives from the loyal States only, proceeded to discuss the term upon which the "States recently in rebellion" should be re-admitted into the family of the Union. There were two courses possible. Before the war, the Southern whites had been allowed in the apportionment of Congressional representation three-fifths of a vote for every male slave inhabitant. One Southern white male with 500 slaves was therefore equal to 301 Northern free votes. It was now necessary either to deprive the South of all representation for its black or non-voting population, or, on the other hand, to admit the negro to the right or privilege of the franchise, and thus increase considerably the representative importance of the South in Congress. The conservative Republicans argued that the negro was unfit for the franchise, and that the first course would be the safer and more prudent one to be adopted. In that case, the five millions of whites in the South would be hopelessly overwhelmed by the thirty millions of whites in the North. But there were many republicans with whom politics was a matter not of expediency, but of religious faith, and they claimed that under the Constitution, every male adult, unless he were a pauper or a criminal, was entitled as a matter of right to

a voice in public affairs. This theory is no doubt familiar to Australians and Englishmen and the style of the "flesh and blood" doctrine put forward once by Mr. Gladstone. For awhile, the debates between the rival schools of political thought were fierce and bitter. But the matter was settled by an appeal to the political cupidity of the conservative wing of the party. "See," cried Mr. Thaddeus Stevens, the champion of the out-and-out manhood suffrage theory, "how you are imperiling the future of the Republic by your attempted injustice to the negro. You say, you fear, the political influence of the South, and you seek to counteract it by cutting it down to the natural importance of the South as a cluster of white communities, and ignoring the fact that it has any black population whatever. I, too, fear the political influence of the South, but I seek to counteract it by doing equal and exact justice to all men. Give the negro a vote and he will infallibly vote with that great Republican party which, with simple generosity giving him freedom, has endowed him with the highest symbol of citizenship—the franchise." The prospect of thus not only neutralizing, but of also capturing as its own, the Southern delegation to Congress, made the party a unit. Negro suffrage in express terms was made one of the amendments to the Constitution, and can never again be repealed save by a two-thirds vote of both Houses of Congress, ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the States. For a few years negro suffrage worked, as anticipated, to the benefit of the Republican party, though at a fearful cost to the States immediately interested. Adventurers from the North drilled the new vote into compact organizations, whose nominations meant assured victory. The Southern whites had to submit to see black men elevated to the highest judicial and legislative posts. In time, however, the superior political sagacity of the whites found a way out of the difficulty. They adopted what is known as the "shot gun" policy. Political organizations, with grotesque names such as the Ku Klux Klan, or the White League, constituted themselves vigilance committees to intimidate black men from voting, or to nullify the results of their voting by the massacre of the elected candidate. How many black men have been thus slain is beyond computation; it is certain that many thousands have been sacrificed to Anglo-Saxon pride of race. These murders have uniformly been condemned at the North by both parties, but the South has defended itself by saying first that the "outrages" were exaggerated; and, secondly, that it has re-

sort to anarchy not from hatred of the black race, or from a desire to override the United States Constitution by force, but because the Governments established by the Northern adventurers, or "carpet baggers" and their negro allies were so corrupt and financially profligate that they justified the sacred right of revolution. In retaliation, the "carpet baggers" organized millions, which made the popular elections a mere farce. In order to "protect the purity of the ballot-box" they created in many of the States Returning Boards, whose duty it was to scrutinize and revise the actual vote cast, and throw out any parish or county where fraud or intimidation was shown to have prevailed. These Boards consist exclusively of Republicans, and are co-optive—that is, they have power to continue themselves in office indefinitely. Of course, they declare whoever they please to be

been in graver danger; and it will be indeed a crowning proof of the good sense and political self-restraint of the American people if they survive it without a recourse to brute force.

Both sides in the struggle have a colouring of justice in their claims. The Republicans show undoubtedly in all three of the doubtful States that there has been intimidation, and the Democrats show with equal clearness that the Republicans have done an immense amount of cheating in doctoring the returns. The Republicans will, of course, not consent to the throwing out of either of these States, because that would leave both candidates without a majority in the Electoral College, and would thus give the election to the present House of Representatives, which was elected two years ago, and has an overwhelming Democratic majority. The House, which has been elected this fall, on the other hand, has a Democratic majority of only six or seven—perhaps nine; and in voting by States (as is required) to be done when the House elects a President) is Republican. The Republicans will say, with justice, that, since the political complexion of the country has changed so greatly in the last two years as to reduce the Democratic majority from 77 to 6, it is unfair that the old House should elect the chief magistrate. Then, further to complicate matters, the Democrats have only carried four out of the twenty-two Northern States, while they claim every Southern and border State. In the Northern States proper, General Hayes has a popular majority of nearly 200,000 votes; but Mr. Tilden has in all the States, southern and northern, a popular majority of 200,000 votes, his majorities in the Southern States being enormously greater than those of his opponent in the north. Every State Legislature in the north, save two, is Republican, and in one of these two the Democratic majority is only one.

As we can see, even should we, as is possible, escape the arbitrament of violence, there is abundance of political excitement in store for us for the next four or five years to come. The Senate is likely to remain Republican permanently; and as the only way in which the House can force it to acquiesce in its legislation is by cutting off the supplies, we shall probably, in the near future, enjoy the spectacle of an obstinate deadlock. Then, on the floor of the House, there is an unusually strong representation in the coming Congress of "positive men," men whose great business it seems to be to let their fellow creatures understand that the purpose of life is to make a noise, and we shall have debates, stormy and animated as were those memorable discussions immediately antecedent to the war. In every part of the political horizon, the sky is overcast with black clouds.

THE VOTING FOR PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES.

AL. the returns (says the *Alta California*) were sent in by the morning of the 10th November, with the exception of four: these were North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana, each of which was claimed by both parties; but the result, so far as South Carolina and Florida are concerned, must await the result of the following is the result of each State, excepting those already mentioned:—
 Maine gives about 15,000 Republican majority.
 New Hampshire, ditto, 3000 to 4000.
 Vermont, ditto, 4000 to 10,000.
 Massachusetts, ditto, 10,000 ditto.
 Connecticut, Democratic majority, 1500.
 Rhode Island, Republican majority, about 7000.
 New York, Democratic, about 30,000 majority.
 New Jersey, ditto, 5000 to 7000 ditto.
 Delaware, ditto, 2000 ditto.
 Maryland, ditto, 12,000 ditto.
 Pennsylvania, Republican, 25,000 ditto.
 Ohio, ditto, 5000 to 10,000 ditto.
 Indiana, Democratic, 7000 ditto.
 Illinois, Republican, about 10,000 ditto.
 Virginia, Democratic, 30,000 ditto.
 West Virginia, ditto, by 17,000 ditto.
 North Carolina, uncertain, elected by both parties.
 South Carolina, uncertain, ditto. It is probable that General Hampton, Dem., elected by 2000, and Hayes has carried the State by 8000 majority.
 Georgia, Democratic, 75,000 majority.
 Florida, uncertain. Democrats claim 2500 majority.
 Louisiana, uncertain. Democrats claim 100,000 majority.
 Mississippi, Democratic, 30,000 majority.
 Louisiana, uncertain. Democrats claim 16,000 majority. Republicans claim 15,000 majority.
 Alabama, Democratic, 25,000 majority.
 Kansas, ditto, 30,000 majority.
 Texas, ditto, 75,000 ditto.
 Tennessee, ditto, 25,000 ditto.
 Kentucky, ditto, 25,000 ditto.
 Missouri, ditto, 35,000 ditto.
 Iowa, Republican, 30,000 ditto.
 Wisconsin, ditto, 7000 ditto.
 Michigan, ditto, 20,000 ditto.
 Minnesota, ditto, 18,000 ditto.
 Colorado, ditto, 3000 ditto.
 Nebraska, ditto, 18,000 ditto.
 Kansas, ditto, 38,000 ditto.
 Nevada, ditto, 12,000 ditto.
 California, ditto, 2000 to 4000 ditto.
 Oregon, ditto, 1000 ditto.
 The returns thus returned show 174 votes certain for Tilden, and 166 certain for Hayes. North Carolina has 10 votes, which are pretty sure for Tilden, making 194 for him. Louisiana with 10 votes, South Carolina with 10 votes, Florida with 4—in all 21—will probably go for Hayes, making 183 for him—a majority of only one vote.

OUR BRISBANE LETTER.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2.

New postal regulations have been issued which promise to be of great use to the travelling public up and down between Brisbane and Dalby, and Brisbane and Warwick on the S. and W. Railway, there will in future be attached travelling post-offices to the different stations en route. Letters may be posted at any station on the line, and may also be registered; and will be carried on by the first of the travelling post-offices passing the station at which the letters are posted. The rate of postage will be an extra rate charged, and if this rate does not apply, the stamps at the time of delivery then a third rate becomes payable. This part of the regulation will, probably after a little experience, be found to be a great convenience, and will save the public the like twopence to carry a letter on a line of railway, and the extra twopence and still more the third twopence cannot be necessary and will be oppressive. It is not intended to change, we can induce the Postmaster-General to issue stamps for the whole amount of business will be transacted by the travelling public while they are on the move; and the at present tiresome journey to Toowoomba, Dalby, and Warwick will be saved, and necessarily be the waste time which it is at present.

The Minister for Public Instruction has appointed a travelling musical instructor to move amongst the country schools, teaching and organizing as he goes. Learning of music is a very good thing, but he has to be careful not to neglect the more important subjects. Music, and a knowledge of music, like other branches of knowledge, has a humanizing effect apart from its usefulness and the pleasure which it affords. It is a humanizing influence, because it cannot fail of excellent effect upon the rising generation.

I have, within the last few months, organized in Calcutta a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which is, I fear, just a thought before its time. Our country is small, and acts of cruelty to animals are not infrequently of such value in large numbers, which have their distinct criminal character, as to be comparatively so rare, and so easily dealt with by either public opinion or by the law, as to be almost entirely unimportant. The organization will have to do. Dealing to be fully armed and equipped in carrying through the Upper House a bill, giving them large powers of arrest and control, and the Government of India did not seem to arrest the strength of the Legislative Assembly, and the bill did not become law. The

wheth his commission by prosecuting an urchin of a
Nobles boy for cruelty to his horse by drawing
him with overburdening. The case for the defence
with both overpersuading. The case for the defence
proving that the spur's rowels were quite blunt, and
that the blood came from the basket and not from the
horse's sides, the Bench declined to hear the case
further. That the society by its very existence will
not be without a deterrent effect despite this result to
its first prosecution, I have no doubt, as was evidenced
to myself the other day when I heard one omnibus
driver say to another who was flogging his horse,
"Look out, Jim, or you'll have M—M—" (naming
the inspector) "on top of your tail."

[illegible][illegible]

Incidentally to the operations of the National Agricultural Association, the citizens of Brisbane have agreed to contribute to the project of a picnic ground which promises to become a place of resort hitherto, with the exception of the Botanic Gardens, which in the very nature of things could provide very little convenience for outdoor games. Brisbane has been fortunate in having a large number of citizens who gather in considerable numbers for athletic and other amusements requiring space. This want is now well supplied by the grounds and buildings belonging to the Association at Bowen Park, where, on Boxing Day, the citizens will be able to enjoy the pleasures of various or take part in games, dancing, and fun of various kinds, provided for them by caterers who had in each case leased the grounds for the day. This day, however, provides no grounds for conjuring, dancing, or professional concerting, and the amateur artists who cannot conveniently be carried on out of doors, besides accompanying large numbers of audiences; while the horse and cattle rings, which are also held on the site, will satisfy in many ways for the entertainment of the bodies and souls of visitors. In fact so much is this the case that yesterday might be seen several picnic parties occupying stalls in the cattle sheds; and even the dog kennels were used for the purpose of the picnic. It is to be hoped the holiday-makers as dining saloons, nurseries, etc. The proximity of the Acclimatization Society's gardens is also availed of by many as a means of escape from the glare and uproar into various quiet nooks and corners, and the general feeling is that the grounds have caused to be well satisfied at this, only partially foreseen, advantage derivable from the new and powerful organization which brought about the improvement of the grounds. The grounds have not been practically brought a good deal more than the stumpy oak forest being extended to the gate under new by-laws which have just come into operation and it appears probable that, with the exception of the grounds at Bowen Park, the only other picnic ground, the Bowen Park will do all and more than was said to be accomplished by the Sports Ground Company, the remoteness of whose location from town will further contribute to throw it into the shade of popular disfavour.

[illegible]

OUR MELBOURNE LETTER

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2.

"A HAPPY NEW YEAR" has been for the last day of the two universal salutation, and as our two Governors clasped hands on the Murray the other day, so Victoria and New South Wales cannot do better—in heart—at least—than clasp hands and wish each other "the compliments of the season." One way of ensuring a happy new year, however collectively—is to take as individuals of the colony collectively—is to take a retrospective view of the year that is past, and to endeavour to profit by its mistakes and avoid its achievements. There is, moreover, a good deal that is instructive in our current history, and your readers will perhaps bear with me if I run over in very brief fashion the principal events of the year 1876 in Victoria. So far as concerns the commercial prosperity of the colony and the state of our trade, the year 1876 has closed in circumstances much more favourable than those in which it began. A year ago our merchantmen were complaining of overstocked warehouses; meat was dear because feed was scarce, and the threatened fall in wool was discouraging enterprise. The price of wool was a trying time trade recovered, the price of wool recovered, and the price of wool materially advanced, owing partly to the large diminution of imports for several months; and the last month or two of the year were distinguished by greater success than that which we have had for several years. Financial matters too, have been very favourable for there have been only two failures of any magnitude during the year, and we commence the new year without any apprehension of commercial un-

The social life of the colony has been marked by the return of Sir George Bowen, after enjoying a holiday in Europe, and of Lady Bowen, after an absence of about two years. The house-warming of the new Viceroy, Lord Dufferin, has also brought us as visitors two Governors from neighbouring colonies. During the year Sir Charles Gairdner Duffy returned from Europe, and was soon induced to re-accept his appointment; and still more recently the Hon. J. G. Francis has returned. Amongst the exciting events of the period may be mentioned the great feud between the Customs authorities and Messrs.

Stevenson and Sons, the seizure of the steamer belonging to the firm, and the proceedings criminal and civil which arose out of the affair, and some of which are still pending. There was also the great Civil service embargo, which eventuated in the removal of Mr. Brough Smythe from the office of Commissioner of Customs, and the scandal which has ended in the rejection of the Rev. Mr. Ewing's application to the Presbytery Assembly to be readmitted as a minister of that church. His ejection from the pulpit at Dee-wards has yet to be considered, for a large majority of the people still adhere to him.

Some memorable disasters have to be recorded—namely the loss of the steamer Queensland, and the still more calamitous foundering of the Pasadena on the coast of the Cape. The Empress and the Frankfurt have also to be included in our marine disasters.

Among those who have passed away from us to join the "great majority," have been the Rev. A. M. Carson, the late Minister of Collins-street Independent Church; John W. McEwen, a prominent and popular preacher belonging to the same denomination; Mr. Michael O Grady, the minister for Villierstown and Heytesbury, and one of the most active and useful of our preachers; Mr. John W. McEwen, the late Mr. Sullivan, one of the members for Collingwood, formerly Minister of Mines; Mr. Thomas, member for Sandridge; and Mr. Richardson, one of the representatives for the district of the City of Melbourne. The first Governor, Mr. La Trobe, and of Captain Hovell, who made the first overland journey from Sydney to these parts in company with Mr. Hume is also numbered among the departed. It is a tolerably long list of names more or less identified with the early history and development of the colony.

I have, in other papers, had to say so much about our politics that I will only add, in reference to this part of the subject, that the beginning of 1876 found Parliament in session with Mr. Berry and his last Administration in office, and that the Opposition, in election from office, and the refusal of the Acting Governor to give them a dissolution, that they had threatened to prevent supplies being granted, and to stand "at the wall" in St. James's Palace. Sir James McCulloch, part of the Opposition, moved the House into Committee of Supply, the Opposition met him with a motion "that progress be reported." This game was persisted in until the motion in favour of a dissolution was discussed, in which the Opposition were defeated. The Opposition was still refused, and Sir James McCulloch, who asserted the Obstructionists that supply would have to be obtained somehow, and that if they persisted in so unwarrantable and unprecedented a proceeding as to "hold the wall" this would have to resort to force. This device which would effectually defeat the Government was treated with derision, and so, after giving them several days to reconsider their course of action, Sir James at last introduced what has been called the "iron bill," and, as your readers are aware, there is nothing more than of the ordinary orders of the South Australian Parliament, as well as of all the Legislative bodies in the United States and Canada, and is also adopted by societies here of which the leading newspapers are members. No doubt that the Opposition would have been successful in an absolute necessity, the only other alternative being a submission to the will of the minority, which is complete subversion of the democratic principle that the majority shall govern, to say nothing of the ruin that would befall the country, and the Government, and the wrong done to the public creditor. Nevertheless, the defeated party continue to denounce it as a "despotic" gag, and the names of those members who voted for it are held up to execration. Let us hope that the Government will not be tempted to resort to such a measure in the defence of a Parliamentary government and the public credit. So much did the majority in the Assembly shrink from the chance of handing over the government of the country to the Opposition, that they refused to support it, they kept the McCulloch Ministry in office, although virtually disapproving of their financial policy, and so the session was brought to an end and after the passing of the Loan Bill. The session just terminated commenced with a vote on the part of the Opposition to obstruct business, and Sir James McCulloch, the Ministers that they would not be allowed to transact any other business than passing an amending Bill. Electoral Act. The will was good, but the power to carry it out, this threat was "at the wall" and the Government, how the minority, in one bill after another which, in spite of all opposition, had to be carried until at last a more respectable catalogue of useful Acts has been added to the statute-book than can be credited to any one session of the Government. The history of the Government for features in this chapter of our political history is that a year ago three successive Treasurers had submitted schemes for raising additional taxation, and after the affairs of the country had been thrown into confusion by the failure of the Government to carry out the middle of another financial year, and seem to be getting on very well without any new tax at all!

The cricket match with the English Eleven has proved one of the most exciting we have ever yet had in Melbourne. Up to the return of the Englishmen from Sydney there appeared to be very little attention directed to the game, but since the English team arrived a match had an effect upon the Melbourne public, and if the weather on Boxing-Day had been propitious the attendance would have been unprecedented. The play on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday was witnessed by thousands of spectators, and the excitement, the enthusiasm and the vicissitudes of the game intensified the interest taken in it on the part of the public. Nothing so good is to be heard of in England, and the English team, as was witnessed on Thursday and Friday, was up to the close of the first innings of the Englishmen—men whose first hour of the second innings of our team was the worst of the match complete—falling nine wickets down for 10 runs. And this was the case in the first innings scored of average of 13 runs per wicket which would have given 117 instead of 27. This extraordinary reverse has been attributed to the bad light, but it is probable that the Englishmen, by their putting the Englishmen out for 125 runs, and against their own score of 190 had something to do with it, and probably the lengthened interval that occurred between the close of the first and the commencement of the second innings did not improve matters. It secures more careful play. The stand made by two of our team on Saturday morning retrieved the position.

of the Victorians, and their good bowling and careful fielding in the final innings gave them a well-earned victory. The theory advanced to account for the losses of our wickets on Friday evening received some support from the fact that the English players suffered a severe reverse during the same hour of the day on Saturday, for although some of their men ran up a score of 98, their last four could not manage 13. Altogether the match has certainly been the most interesting we have had in Melbourne, and the show made by our young men seems to indicate that the former supremacy of Melbourne cricketers will soon be restored. These recent defeats at the hands of

tion may be traced to the fact that "popula:" constituencies are apt to place their confidence in the masses of the numerous anonymous electors, and we have an Assembly composed, to a great extent, of some windbags. The Assembly which now only awaits a proclamation of the Governor in Council to terminate its existence has distinguished itself almost entirely by its incapacity for fable. The *Aryas* has been at the pains to tabulate the talking performances of the several members, and to give a comparative statement of the speakmaking of Victorian legislators alongside that of the members of the House of Commons. No doubt there would have been much less talking on the part of our Ministers if there had been more moderation shown by the Opposition; but it does seem almost to find that while in a session of the British Parliament (1881 to 1879) the 164 members, Premier, spoke 130 times, our Premier last session spoke 272 times; that while the leader of the Opposition (Mr. D'Israeli) spoke 55 times, our Mr. Barry spoke 146 times; but the climax of absurdity is reached when we find one of our members, and a youngster in the House, speaking 340 times, which would represent about as many speeches as those of the whole of the ex-Ministers on the left of the Speaker in the British House of Commons put together. The other members of the fourteen leading members on both sides at the fourteenth were 365, while our fourteen chief talkers made 2629 contributions to Hansard, besides all that was said when strangers have been excluded. Mr. Elphinstone spoke 100 times, and 100 speeches were made, over the Harbour Trust Bill 618 speeches over the Public-houses Bill 419, and over supply questions 592. This Parliament was elected once for a year reform of the Legislative Council. It expires with the coming of the new year, and it has done its utmost for the reform of the Assembly. We have secured one of our members for the Lower House by equalising, as far as practicable, the voting power of the several electorates; but we must not think that this is the whole of the matter on the part of the electors in the House of Representatives. If the constituencies would treat gerrymandering as a disqualification, instead of being carried away by it, we should have more business done and more good done. During the recess the interior of the chamber is to be improved by the addition of members, and for greater convenience of debate, and it would be a good opportunity to introduce the practice adopted in schools and some churches of inserting tables and bookshelves on the walls. Over the Speaker's chair, for example, there should be a picture in bold characters that good old maxim, "Silence or something better."

One of the measures hurried through Parliament at the close of the session was a bill for the management of our State forests. Legislation in this direction had been urgently demanded for some time past. The forests of the State, especially those of the gold-fields were entirely destroyed by the mining population, but as many of these "diggings" have become comparatively deserted, or as population has declined, it is to be feared that the temptation to destroy the growing timber, and the old forests are springing up thicker than ever, and it only needs judicious thinning to ensure us in a few years a new crop of timber of your own. Old forests which escaped the raids of the miners, are still worth preserving, although in many places they are being ruthlessly denuded of their timber, and the land is left only in their places. This bill will enable the Government for the time being to deal with the necessities of the case, assisted by local Forest Boards. It is objected that this will make the Government yield up the control of the forests in the Government's hands, leaving everything to be provided for by regulations. The power of creating or abolishing the local boards, and the strict control of directing how the forests and lands are to be applied to, and the power, and offers strong temptations to a Ministry to make themselves friends with the mammon of unrighteousness; but, on the whole, the bill should be passed, and only if administered, must prove a great gain to the country.

AIDERMEN AND CLEANLINESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

SIR.—Your correspondent "G. R. B." has drawn attention to one very important matter to abate the spread of small-pox in this city—viz., the destruction of old rickshaws, &c., &c., which are a great danger. But there is another equally important matter that should not be overlooked, and which is especially at the present, namely, the filthy state of the more neglected surface drainage of the back streets in lanes. Only yesterday, I was walking from the City to the town, through houses of business on Brickfield-lane, to one of the wharfs of Smeaton-street; I can assure you I hardly dare draw breath in passing these Smeaton-street, the stench being unbearable. As I drove through the lanes, I saw on each side of the street wall stocked with decomposing animal and vegetable refuse, carelessly heaped in mud, and the stench was so strong that I was obliged to stop, forming a perfume that would defy a *Rimmel* to describe my object in addressing you is more particularly that the persons of each ward should now fulfil at least one of the promises made by the Corporation, and that they should sweep new reigns in the streets and lanes entrusted to their care. By doing so they will only be fulfilling their duty and maintaining the reputation of the Corporation, and their most dreaded plague.

January 4. Respectfully yours,
EDWARD HORDEEN.

SANITARY REGULATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

SIR,—It seems an enormous amount that now to draw attention to some simple rules drawn up by Dr. Lamberton—Medical Officer of Health, St. James's Westminster,—which are intended to guide people in case of an epidemic outbreak of cholera or typhoid, or any other of the most noxious actively contagious diseases, and to break, and then isolating the cases as far as possible, so that one can hope to check those ravages which disease makes at times over an infected area. The Public Health Act, 1872, and the Sanitary Act, 1875, have been the basis of the action of the Legislature in the mother country in recent years, will probably aid in lessening the annual mortality from zymotic disorders. Thanks to a fine atmosphere, and to the fact that the weather is so warm as at present in a very fair sanitary condition, and we should take all the means in our power to preserve it, and I would beg to draw attention to the following leaflet means for preventing the spread of epidemic diseases, which has been adopted on the other side of the world, viz.,

1. Sorrel fever, small-pox, typhus, typhoid and relapsing fevers and measles, are catching or infectious disorders.

2. By the Sanitary Act of 1894 a penalty of £5 is inflicted on any person who knowingly permits his house to be the means of spreading infectious and contagious diseases among their friends or neighbours.

3. It is illegal to use any public cab for the conveyance of a patient, unless the driver anywhere else without taking the driver that it is a case of infectious disease.

4. The driver of a cab may refuse to take any such person unless the driver is sufficiently confident to defray the expense of disinfecting his cab.

5. Any cabman taking another fare after conveying an infected person, without previously disinfecting his cab, is liable to a fine of £5.

6. It is illegal for an infected person to go, or for any person to take or send any one suffering from an infectious disease, to any public place, such as a waiting-room of a hospital or a dispensary—or to a school, church, chapel, or to a theatre, or omnibus, or other public carriage, so as to endanger any other persons, whether adults or children.

7. It is also illegal for any person to give, lend, sell, or move to another place, or expose, any bedding, clothing, rags, or any other articles which may have become infected and are liable to convey any contagious disease to other persons, unless such things have been previously disinfected.

8. It is also illegal to let any house, room, or part of a house in which any person has been ill with any dangerous infectious disease until it and all articles in it have been properly disinfected. The same law also applies to public houses, hotels, and lodgings. The penalty for disobedience in these cases is £20.

9. Such regulations being enacted in New South Wales, and in the other colonies, the Government printed forms issued to every household in the colony, and it needs be, by the police in the several districts, and posted in the public places, were certainly be a great safeguard to the present and future health of the colony.

J. S. NORRIS, Analytical Sanitary Institution.

SMALL-POX.

are hard ed of people breathing the eluvia from those specific intestinal discharges. Here, then, are your enterics, study, hundred of thousands of them, your specific normal in abundance, millions upon millions, but there is a specific enteric fever. What becomes of your theory of the specific origin of enteric? Other writers have appealed to the o of the Thames, just spoken of, as well as that of other rivers, to prove the th theory of simple sewage decomposition in the causation of enteric fever; but they have forgotten that when sewage air has been found to give rise to enteric fever, this air has been sed into and more or less secluded

in closed spaces, not given out into the open air, they have air; they have also forgotten that more often is not the nature of the sewage product which gives rise to enteric fever; and that no one has maintained that all kinds of sewage decomposition at all times are equal to the production of the disease.

"The learning of all this on the relation of contagion

hospitals to private dwellings will be evident. The place for a contagious hospital is not "out in the open," as the phrase is, but in the most densely-populated portions of our large cities, inasmuch as more or less danger is incurred by the removal of persons suffering from acute disease long distances to the persons themselves. Moreover, their friends are unwilling that they should be removed to great distance from their own homes, in consequence of which intentions disease is often retained in crowded houses to the great danger of the community. Contagious hospitals may exist, and as a matter of fact have existed and do exist

in the midst of thickly-populated localities without causing to their inhabitants; and the four which is entirely due to the nurses and visitors to such hospitals may, themselves being free from the disease, communicate infection by mixing in the community by rail or on the highway is, in the opinion of the writer, entirely groundless."

CIVIL SERVICE REGULATION BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

CIVIL SERVICE REGULATION BILL.

Government of the country what I consider to be the rights of those Government employees whose salaries were in 1971-72, in consequence of the then depressed state of the public finances, subjected to reductions varying from 2½ to 7½ per cent., I desire, with your permission, to say word or two respecting the provisions made in the new

posed Civil Service Regulation Bill for compensating persons who suffered loss by that most arbitrary measure. It is not my intention to discuss the merits of a financial policy the incidence of which was enormous, and consequently so unjust. The inventors of the scheme were sufficiently alive to its conscious nature, but they availed themselves of it as being merely a temporary expedient adopted for the sole purpose of assisting to meet the demands of the country on a satisfactory basis, and the decrease consumption once secured the amount by which the service had been reduced would be refunded. That is the

The Hon. John Robertson recently made, and I glad to find between man and man were respected the Councils of the country, as it ought to be, the return would have been as general as the reduction of salaries. Much might be said of the anomalies which will be created by the assertion of the proposed classification of officers and no doubt attention will be taken thereto during the passage of the bill through the House; but it is with the proposed Civil Service Fund that I have at present to deal and I have no hesitation in denouncing that scheme as utterly impious and unjust. I mentioned that law never

will have the hardihood to say that Government should show the money to the persons whose salaries were reduced; whether they have continued in the service or whether they have left it; and the proposal to make the \$4,000,000,000 nucleus of a new new emergency fund to maintain or to let on a barefaced robbery. The large number of persons who must have left the service will derive benefit from the "Civil Service Fund," but those stopped from this salary is as surely due to Government as though they still continued in the service beside the arbitrary appropriation to Government of

right-wind of morality to which they have no shadow of righteous claim, however benevolent the object they have in view, can hardly be considered as tending to promote public morals or private integrity. The money is not all justly the property of those persons who suffered by the temporary reduction of salaries during the years I have before mentioned, and those men on whom the interests fell with the most crushing weight are either excluded from deriving any benefit from the provisions of the proposed bill, or their acquisition of an interest therein charged by such conditions as will assuredly prevent its making application for a participation in its benefits. The

working man who was in receipt of a daily wage of six or seven shillings, and who was much in the sum of five or six to fifteen pounds has a right to have that money paid with interest added, and no Government can be justified, whatever their motives may be, in withholding the money a day longer than is necessary for its proper application. I myself know of many who submitted to the reduction who have since left the public service, and for one shall never rest satisfied until I have used every possible effort, both in and out of the House, to procure to them such moneys as they are entitled to, and which are

Government having a just sense of its responsibility
would for a moment dream of withholding.
I am, Sir, &c.,
HUGH TAYLOR.
Parramatta, January 4.

THE EFFECTS OF FORESTS UPON RAIN
FALL.

TO THE HONOR OF THE SENATE

As a

the temporary reduction of salaries during the years I have before mentioned, and these men on whom the burden fell with the most crushing weight are either excluded from deriving any benefit from the provisions of the proposed bill, or their acquisition of an interest therein is clogged by such conditions as will assuredly prevent it.

making application for a participation in its benefits. The working man who was in receipt of a daily wage of six or seven shillings, and who was must in the sum of five or to fifteen pounds has a right to have that money restored with interest added, and no Government can be justified, whatever their motives may be, in withholding the money a day longer than is necessary to do so.

apportionment. I myself know of many who submitted the petition who have since left the public service, and for one shall never rest satisfied until I have used every possible effort, both in and out of the House, to procure for them such motives as they are entitled to, and which our Government having a just sense of its responsibility

would for a moment dream of withholding.
I am, Sir, &c.
HUGH TAYLOR.
Parramatta, January 4.

THE EFFECTS OF FORESTS UPON RAIN
FALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

SIR,—Your very sensible correspondent "W. I." will, I hope, excuse my not sooner replying to his remarks in your issue of the 10th inst.

That gentleman appears to see his way clear, than any of us in a controversy which yet to me, for all practical purposes, seems of trifling importance. My aim extends not beyond the practical. "The greater rainfalls come from the sea," says "W. L.," "the dewfall, fogs, and

An acquaintance, whose galvanized roof was carefully spouted, used to boast how much water he collected from the dew alone on a clear night. He never could give the actual quantity, but did not, for all that lose his temper when advised not to trust too much to the dew, but a

enlarge his land for the collection and storage of rain. In connection with this, "W. L.'s" valuable observations (which we trust he will continue) suggest how some people in this controversy are over-particular (and on the wrong side, too) about dewfall and its analogies, while forgetful or careless of the overwhelming disproportion between it and the average rainfall.

Both the mate and dove, say I, if our colony only store the collected rainfall in tanks, ponds, lakes, or, better, in *trenched* land. Steam ploughs will trench deeply economically, and, what is more important, *permanently*. Having disposed of real business, let us go back to theory.

"W. L." explains how, in a long drive, both going and returning, a Scotch mist (just such as sweeps over the hills of Liddesdale) wet him through on the open lands around Shoshaven, while, under the adjoining forest, had meanwhile not rained at all.

Very similar is the experience of every bushman among mountains. The open valley of Main River is frequently during an after-claro night, covered until 11 a.m. with a mist, so dense heavy dew—said must not extending to

the afternoon winded valleys but rising in altitude above the adjoining means. Often have I, from an elevation, thus traced the course of the Murrumbidgee and its tributaries for twenty or thirty miles. In the same manner the Downs of June, the fogs and frost over the low extended country near the Main Creek, which is eternally open or contains only about one small tree to the acre, but after rising to the better wooded scented hills some 200 feet or so in height, we came into a bright sun. Here frost, I believe, never lies; and certainly much less dew than on the bare plains below.

In all these cases, cold is the probable parent of condensed vapour. True, the open ground heats more by day than the forest, but in the former case, night's cold radiates more than makes up the difference. In the Sahara itself the clear nights, and especially the very early morning, are intensely cold. This probably is accounted for by the air, that little moisture on which the rare species provide harsh exile.

"When the weight of a forest is removed by clearing, spruce appear where previously was no appearance of water." May this not be an illustration of the theory ventured upon in the *Edo*, December 19—printed this day in your advertising columns?

May not the small ice at sea breeze, meeting the outgoing surface wind on its way to the South Pole, as noticed by me in the same letter—both laden with vapour, the latter with that of evaporation from the continent—pressing against each other over the cleared land of Shoshaveva, squeeze out of the intermingling surfaces such a Scotch-

I noted that our rain-bearing wind is occasionally en-
tirely towards the South Pole. Its course is naturally
along a spiral from the N.W. Mr. Tod, of South Australia,
speaks positively of the constant existence over our con-
tinent of a current of air with such tendency—sailing, I sup-
pose, the westerly, and opposing the easterly winds. My
rhyme account for the authority tendency of our rain-bearing
winds is enormously, I fancy, due to be the tail-end of
our rain-wind, the trade-wind of the Southern
Ocean, and more to the southward of the equator.

Transiting that this letter will elicit for me the whole subject, I append for the benefit of town-readers this somewhat irrelevant explanation. The forests of Australasia, comparatively speaking, very limited. Anything as thick timber in only to be found at sea-level in the more distant neighbourhood of the sea; and as the land recedes, the gradually-higher terraces; but always exposed to the full blast of the moist sea-wind. When the country is shaded or removed from the strength of this wind, the best grass

gradually thinner and more rocky. Still at last the one tree per acre *strains* and in treeless plains. Speaking under correction, I assume that not one quarter of our colony has the remotest claim to be described as forest.

L. FANE DE SALIS.

Cupparabalong, January 2.

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